



Position Title: Forestry Assistance Program Forester

Position Summary: The Marquette County Conservation District (MCCD) is seeking a Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) Forester. **Position requires a minimum of a B.S of Forestry.** This is a grant position, renewed annually from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). The Forestry Assistance Program provides private forest landowners with technical assistance and information regarding forestry, wildlife habitat, and related natural resource concerns, so that they may make informed decisions about the use and management of their forestlands. Landowners you will be expected to assist include non-industrial private forestland owners, schools, local units of government, and rural and urban residents in Marquette and Alger counties.

The Marquette County Conservation District will be the employer of record for this position and the forester will report directly to the MCCD District Manager and the FAP advisory committee. Primary office space for the Forestry position is located at MCCD office in Marquette, Michigan. The forester's time is allocated between both the Marquette and Alger Conservation Districts.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in forestry from a college or university with a Society of American Foresters accredited forestry program is required
- Excellent organizational, management, public speaking, and communication skills
- Computer fluency in Microsoft applications
- Knowledge/experience with GIS
- Ability to read various types of maps (aerial, topography, soils) and navigate through forested properties
- Ability to assist Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff with program administration and conservation planning
- Valid driver's license and reliable personal transportation
- Must be able to pass a background check
- Arboriculture experience is highly recommended but not required

Essential Functions:

- Serves as initial point of contact for non-industrial private forest landowners, local governments, etc. for forest management, wildlife habitat, other natural resource issues or concerns
- Provide on-site evaluation of forestlands
- Provide landowners with options regarding forest management
- Provide landowners with options regarding wildlife habitat management
- Prepares written follow-ups that may include appropriate handouts/materials, after visiting with landowners on-site or in the office, as appropriate
- Provides advice on tree planting/reforestation for timber production, windbreaks, wildlife habitat
- Diagnoses and provides advice on the control of forest insects and diseases
- Conducts forestry demonstrations and workshops for the public and other natural resource professionals
- Prepares correspondence, reports, and/or news articles

- Refers landowners to private and public sector partners
- Maintains a good working relationship with other natural resource professionals, both public and private
- Assists landowners with state and federal incentive programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Qualified Forest Program (QFP)
- Assists Conservation Districts with spring and fall tree sales by selecting tree and shrub species to sell, advising customers, handling, and organizing seedlings, etc.
- Fulfill all grant agreement requirements and deliverables
- Assists with preparation of program documentation, including, but not limited to annual grant application, quarterly grant reporting forms, etc.
- Prepares regular, written reports to Conservation District boards (monthly)
- Pursue certified forester status with Society of American Foresters (SAF)
- Attend trainings and conferences as required by grant
- Other duties and functions as assigned

Work Schedule:

- Position is based on a 40 hour work week with normal office hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
- Must be available for monthly evening board meetings for both Alger Conservation District & Marquette County Conservation District, weekend events, workshops, and overnight conference/conventions

Wages and Benefits:

- Pay range is \$23 - 25/hour, depending on experience and SAF accreditation
- Mileage and expense reimbursement
- Holiday, sick and vacation compensation
- Opportunities for training and skills development

Employment:

The MCCD, as an Equal Opportunity employer, complies with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination. It is the policy of the MCCD that no person, on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, disability, or Vietnam-era status, shall be discriminated against in employment or promotions.

Employment with the District is “at will” and an employee may be terminated at any time with or without cause and with or without notice, subject to applicable state and federal laws. Employment is at the discretion of the Board and contingent upon factors determined by the Board including, but not limited to, available funding, job performance, changes in program direction or organization.

How to Apply:

Interested candidates should send a cover letter, resume and three (3) references to Heather Gustafson at mqtcondist@gmail.com (Forester Position in subject line) or mail to 780 Commerce Dr, Suite C, Marquette, MI 49855 for consideration. For additional information or questions contact MCCD’s District Manager Heather Gustafson at 906-251-3072. Application deadline: August 13th, 2021